IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2-3, 10-12, 17, 22 and 23, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 4, 6, 13, 15, 18 and 24 to read as follows:

4. (*Twice Amended*) A valve deactivation system, comprising:

a deactivation rocker arm assembly including an elongate rocker arm having an end, an aperture defined by said end, a center post slidingly disposed within said aperture, said center post configured for engaging a valve stem of a valve of an internal combustion engine, said end of said rocker arm defining a first pin bore and a second pin bore, said first pin bore and said second pin bore being substantially concentric relative to each other, said center post defining a middle pin bore;

a locking pin assembly selectively coupling together and decoupling said center post and said rocker arm, said locking pin assembly including an actuating pin, a second pin member and a middle pin member, said actuating pin member slidingly disposed at least partially within said first pin bore, said second pin member slidingly disposed at least partially within said second pin bore, and said middle pin member slidingly disposed at least partially within said middle pin bore; and

a free motion spring assembly.

16. (*Amended*) A valve deactivation system, comprising:

a deactivation rocker arm assembly including an elongate rocker arm, an aperture defined by said rocker arm, a center post slidingly disposed within said aperture, said center post configured for engaging a valve stem of a valve of an internal combustion engine, a locking pin assembly selectively coupling together and decoupling said center post and said rocker arm; and

a free motion spring assembly including;

an inner spring retainer surrounding a portion of the valve stem;

an outer spring retainer surrounding a portion of the valve stem;

an inner spring surrounding a portion of the valve stem, said inner spring being disposed between a disk cap associated with the valve stem and said inner spring retainer; and

an outer spring surrounding said inner spring, said outer spring being disposed between said outer spring retainer and the disk cap.

17. (*Twice Amended*) A deactivation rocker arm assembly, comprising:

an elongate rocker arm having an end, an aperture defined by said end, said end defining a first pin bore and a second pin bore, said first pin bore and said second pin bore being substantially concentric relative to each other;

a center post slidingly disposed within said aperture, said center post configured for engaging a valve stem of a valve of an internal combustion engine, said center post defining a middle pin bore; and

a locking pin assembly selectively coupling together and decoupling said center post and said rocker arm, said locking pin assembly including an actuating pin, a second pin member and a middle pin member, said actuating pin member slidingly disposed at least partially within said first pin bore, said second pin member slidingly disposed at least partially within said second pin bore, and said middle pin member slidingly disposed at least partially within said middle pin bore.

15. (*Amended*) The deactivation rocker arm assembly of claim 13, wherein said rocker arm includes elongate arms, said arms being one of attached to and integral with said body of said rocker arm and extending therefrom.

18. (*Amended*) The deactivation rocker arm assembly of claim 13, wherein said rocker arm, defines a roller orifice, a roller being disposed within said roller orifice and being coupled to said rocker arm, said roller configured for engaging a cam of the internal combustion engine.

12-24. (*Amended*) An internal combustion engine, comprising:

an elongate rocker arm, an aperture defined by said rocker arm;

a center post slidingly disposed within said aperture, said center post engaging a valve stem of a valve of said internal combustion engine;

a locking pin assembly selectively coupling together and decoupling said center post and said rocker arm; and

a free motion spring assembly, said free motion spring assembly including;

an inner spring retainer surrounding a portion of said valve stem;

an outer spring retainer surrounding a portion of said valve stem;

an inner spring surrounding a portion of said valve stem said inner spring being disposed between said inner spring retainer and a disk cap of said internal combustion engine, said disk cap being associated with said valve stem; and

an outer spring surrounding said inner spring said outer spring being disposed between said outer spring retainer and said disk cap.